

THE COURIER

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ENOCH FOSTER, JR.

Third Owner of the O'Neil Robinson House

Enoch Foster, the third owner of the Society's O'Neil Robinson House, was born in Newry 10 May 1839, the son of Enoch and Persis Swan Foster. He was educated in Newry schools, Gould's Academy, the Maine State Seminary at Lewiston, and at Bowdoin College. He left Bowdoin to enter the Civil War, becoming a second lieutenant in Company H, Thirteenth Regiment of Maine Volunteer Infantry, mustered by Colonel (later General) Neal Dow of Portland, the famed temperance advocate. Foster gained rapid promotion, becoming a first lieutenant, serving in the forces assigned to the Department of the Gulf under General Benjamin F. Butler and later appointed provost marshal by General N. P. Banks. In this capacity, he served for two years, resigning later to take part in the Red River Expedition, where he was recognized for his conspicuous gallantry. After three years of active service, he was honorably discharged and returned to resume his abandoned studies. By a vote taken in the academic council he was permitted to graduate in the class of 1864, his role in the service of his country being taken in lieu of the scholastic work for that period of time. With his college education secured, he began to prepare for a legal career by reading in the law office of his cousin, Hon. Reuben Foster, of Waterville. From there, he went to the Albany Law School, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Law in 1865. That same year, he was admitted to the New York bar and subsequently that of Maine, but soon decided to return to his native state and set up a practice in Bethel.

While he was in Waterville, he met and married there on 3 June 1864, Adeline Owen, daughter of Ivory and Jane (Walker) Lowe of that city. Rev. Dr. David N. Sheldon of Waterville performed the ceremony. She died 12 June 1872 at the age of twenty-nine. He married second on 3 June 1873, Sarah Walker Chapman, born in Bethel, 1 February 1844, the daughter of Hon. Robert A. and Frances (Carter) Chapman of Bethel, who had grown up in the Society's O'Neil Robinson House. Rev. Charles Morse of Bethel officiated at this marriage ceremony. She died on 28 March 1932 at the age of

eighty-eight, surviving her husband by nearly twenty years. By his first wife, he had John Dorr Foster, born in Bethel 15 August 1866 and died there on 2 April 1872. With his second wife, he had Robert Chapman Foster, born in Bethel on 19 April 1880.

No sooner had Enoch Foster settled in Bethel, but his promise and ability, in addition to his powers of clear thinking and natural eloquence, led to his election in 1867 as county attorney and he was re-elected to that post in 1870. Six years later he won a term in the State Senate (1873-74).

In 1884, he was appointed by Governor Frederick Robie as an associate justice of the Maine Supreme and Judicial Court for a seven year term, which was renewed in 1891 by Governor Burleigh for a similar period.

After the close of his second term of office in 1898, Judge Foster retired from the bench and returned to Bethel. The following year, he formed a partnership with Hon. Oscar S. Hersey, opening an office in Portland, which became known as Foster & Hersey and later came to be recognized as a leading firm

throughout the State. After the retirement of his partner, O. S. Hersey, he formed a partnership with his son Robert C. Foster and was actively engaged in that practice until his death.

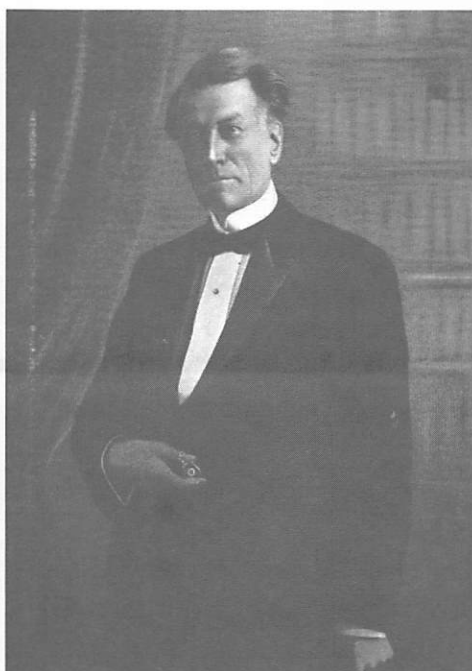
Although a lifelong Republican, Foster, who was present at the 1912 Republican National Convention in Chicago, became so enamored with Theodore Roosevelt, that he left the party to become a Progressive and worked for the former President's election. He was even touted as a possible U. S. Senate candidate for the Progressive Party nomination, but that eventually went to former Governor Edwin C. Burleigh.

Judge Foster took an active part in the social and fraternal life of the community in which he made his home. He held membership in a large number of organizations including the Bar Association of Cumberland County, the Bowdoin Alumni Association, Loyal Legion of Maine, and Brown Post, Grand Army of the Republic in Bethel. Other organizations in which he had membership included the Masonic Order, Knights Templar, Nobles of the Mythic Shrine, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

He died on 15 November 1913 in Portland at the age of seventy-four and is buried there in Evergreen Cemetery with his two wives. ■



Sarah W. Foster



Enoch Foster, Jr.

2007 Schedule of Events

- February 17—Annual Heritage Day
March 14–April 11 (Wednesdays)—Course: “Cousin to Cousin: Genealogical Sources and Methods”
May 10—Lecture: “Maine-Hawaii Connections” by Paul T. Burlin, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of New England
May 26—Annual Faye Taylor Memorial Art Show
Annual St. Never’s Day Sale
June 14—Lecture: “A Painter’s Progress: The Life, Work, and Travels of Harrison Bird Brown of Portland, Maine,” Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr., Director, Maine State Historic Preservation Commission and Maine State Historian
July 4—Fourth of July Community Picnic with Portland Brass Quintet
August 10–12—Sudbury Canada Days
August 10—Hall Memorial Lecture: “Oxford County Mining and Miners,” Vandall T. King, Rochester, NY
September 13—Annual Meeting, Lecture, “Joshua Gross Rich (1820–1897): Western Maine Pioneer and Wildlife Writer,” William B. Krohn, USGS Biological Resources Division, Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, University of Maine, Orono
September 15—Barn Tour
October 11—Lecture: “The Spruce Gum Industry in Maine,” David Fuller, Farmington
October/November: Courses on Antiques and Collectibles and 20th Century Maine
November 8—Lecture: “Elizabeth Mason Carter: A Centennial Retrospective,” Stanley R. Howe, Executive Director, Bethel Historical Society
December 6—Annual “Christmas with the Masons”
December 31—10th Annual New Year’s Bethel Celebration

New Life Member

Ben B. Conant, South Paris

In Memoriam

- Died 11 December 2005, Abigail Gehard, Plymouth, MA, Senior Member
Died 3 September 2006, H. Merrill Luthe, Portland, ME, Benefactor Member
Died 26 December 2006, John W. Howe, Ottawa, Ontario, Life Member

President’s Column

This final issue of 2006 presents a good opportunity to look back at the past year and to look forward to 2007.

In reflecting back over 2006, the year has been another very successful one for the Society. From my perspective, the “Maine in the Civil War” history course, the Yankee Brass band, New Year’s Bethel IX celebration, where over 400 participated in the festivities, the summer intern program, and the hiring of a consultant to assist in planning for the Capital Campaign are but five examples of some of the highlights. The Society has also launched a Governance Assessment under the auspices of the American Association of Museum’s Museum Assessment Program; we are among only a handful of museums in the nation undertaking this particular program. And for those who haven’t noticed, please stop by the front of the Robinson House and take a look at the newly installed kiosk, which now provides us another means of promoting Society projects and programming.

As we look ahead to 2007, another exciting year is promised with several lectures centered on the theme of “Maine Character and Characters” (see left column). We also have some intriguing exhibits planned for 2007. Details of these events and other developments are posted on our Society web site (www.bethelhistorical.org) that is regularly updated and maintained by our Curator, Randy Bennett.

Allen Cressy

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY’S COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

The Bethel Historical Society is committed to building on its reputation as a premier regional history center that will continue to enrich the educational and cultural life of its community for generations to come. Members and friends have generously contributed to the operations of the Society and to the acquisition of the Robinson House. In order to ensure the long-term maintenance and further development of the Center’s facilities, programs, and collections, the Society is seeking new forms of support. You, readers of *The Courier*, are asked to consider making a charitable gift to the Society through a bequest in your will, the establishment of a trust, or a number of other financial arrangements and options that are available. These charitable gifts can be structured to support the Society’s mission while at the same time assuring the security of your family. For more information, please contact the Society by calling (207) 824-2908 or (800) 824-2910 or by writing to P.O. Box 12, Bethel, ME 04217-0012 or by emailing: info@bethelhistorical.org

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The Kanteles perform at 2006-7 New Year's Bethel.

Photo courtesy of Ellen Nordahl Brandt



Toasting marshmallows at New Year's Bethel.

Photo courtesy of Ellen Nordahl Brandt



O'Neil Robinson House as it looked during the Foster family's ownership

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WESTERN MAINE SAINTS

A Bethel Family (Frost)

New York and Far West Years

By Jayne W. Fife, with Roselyn Kirk

[Author's Note: From this point, Mary Ann Frost Stearns Pratt will simply be identified as "Mary"; her daughter will remain "Mary Ann."]

Parley and Mary Frost Stearns Pratt were newlyweds of six weeks embarking on a fresh mission for the Mormon Church when they traveled from the village of Kirkland, Ohio to the teeming port of New York City. In their two week journey, they moved through an eon of change from the recently settled countryside to cosmopolitan New York. For one dollar a day each, they boarded with the sister-in-law of the only church member in the city, Elizah Fordham. Parley immediately began writing the first missionary tract, "The Voice of Warning," which outlined the history and doctrine of the Church. In her autobiography, Mary Ann wrote, "Brother Pratt would write a few pages, read it aloud, then Brother Fordham would copy it and prepare it for the press. During those times I would have to sit down and keep very still. I must not make noise to disturb them, but I could walk around and mother would entertain me with patchwork, cutting paper, drawing thread in pieces of cloth. Mother and I got along very well together. We were used to each other [so] that a little quiet sign language answered in most cases."

Boarding became too expensive, so they moved into one large room that became living and meeting space. Mary Ann wrote that her mother, "being an orderly, natural housekeeper, and not afraid of work, that room was always neat and presentable at the proper hours, the large closet being a great help to that end." Of that time, Parley later wrote, "Of all the places in which the English language is spoken, I found the City of New York to be the most difficult as to assess the minds or attentions of the people. From July to January (1838) we preached, advertised, printed, published, testified, visited, talked, prayed and wept in vain. To all appearances there was no interest or impression on the minds of the people in regard to the fullness of the Gospel....We hired chapels and advertised, but the people would not hear, and the few who came went away without being interested." They had baptized about six members, and organized a small branch that met in their rented room. Occasionally two or three others met with them.

Nearing the end of November, Mary and her daughter traveled to Maine to visit family before they left New York. At the end of December, Parley, filled with discouragement, met in their living quarters with a few members to hold a last prayer meeting in preparation for their leaving. They had prayed all around when suddenly David Rogers, a chair maker, offered to spread out chairs in his warehouse and invite people to hear Parley preach. It was an immediate success, the space was crowded with people. Additional breakthroughs occurred. Parley recorded in his diary, "A

clergyman came to hear me. He invited me to his house to preach, near [the] East River; he and household were obedient to the faith, with many of the members of his society. While preaching a lady solicited me to preach in her house in Willett street; 'for,' she said, 'I had a dream of you and of the new Church the other night.' Another lady wished me to preach in her house, in Grant street.

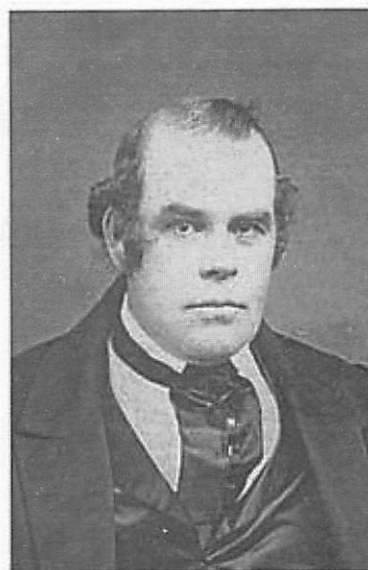
In the meantime I was invited by the Free Thinkers to preach, or to give a course of lectures, in Tammany Hall. In short, it was not three weeks from the meeting in our upper room till we had fifteen preaching places in the city, all of which were filled to overflowing. We preached about eleven times a week, besides visiting from house to house. We soon commenced baptizing, and continued doing so almost during the winter and spring."

Parley and his family left New York City for Far West, Caldwell County, Missouri, a new gathering place, in April 1838, taking a group of new converts. His younger brother, Apostle Orson Pratt, was left in charge of the now rapidly growing branch.

They arrived in Far West in May. By this time about 10,000 church members were spread out in Caldwell, Davies and Ray counties. Collectively, they were becoming a strong political force, even the determining factor in some elections. Parley and his little family moved into an empty log cabin about nine miles out of Far West. He immediately bought and began developing a farm on a piece of land about a mile west of the cabin.

In her 1898 autobiography, Mary Ann, wrote that her mother would each morning cook a meal to take to Parley and then stay to help pull and pile the tall grasses and brush to be burned during the afternoon while Parley worked on the cabin or cleared the land. In the early evening they all walked back to their temporary dwelling.

Finally the house of hewed logs was up to the square, a story and one half high, with a cellar beneath. We had moved into it thinking the roof would soon go on, but brother Pratt was called on a mission to some distant settlement for a week or two so my mother and I were left alone. The first night we were quite comfortable. Our bed was made on boxes and a chest, with sheets tacked up slanting over head, a few boards laid down to walk on, but the second night there came a deluge. The water came down in torrents and it thundered and lightened as though the Heavens and Earth were coming together. Our nearest neighbor was over three miles away so there was no chance of getting shelter with them. But we



Parley Parker Pratt. Courtesy of Jayne Fife

were alive in the morning, and the sun came out bright and shining and hope of better times, mother put the bedding out to dry and made the best of the situation.

"About 9 o'clock our good friend father Isaac Alfred, knowing that Bro. Pratt was away came over to see how we had fared during the storm and when he saw the cellar half full of water and our situation he said you are not going to stay here another night like this—fix up your things—pack up what you need to take with you to my house to stay till Bro. Parley comes home. I was a very timid child and the joy his words gave me it would be hard to describe even now. Accordingly he came with a gentle horse (there were no wagon roads at that time to our place) and placing my mother on it—he walking by the side, they made a very fine representation of Joseph and Mary going to Bethlehem." [Author's note: Mary Pratt was about eight months pregnant.]

"Bro. Pratt returned in about ten days, but decided not to return to his house as the mob had threatened to burn all the houses of Far West." Already simmering political election issues had exploded when a fight broke out at a voting poll in Gallatin, Davies Country on August 6, as a group of Mormon men were prevented from voting by supporters of a particular candidate who was not favored by the Mormon settlers. The extent of the fight was greatly exaggerated, giving disgruntled non-Mormons an excuse to begin persecuting indiscriminately.

Parley and Mary's son, Nathan, was born 31 August in the Allred family's log smoke house. When Nathan was only a few days old, they found out that their partially built cabin which had luckily been cleared of their possessions, had been destroyed by angry marauders. As soon as Mary was able, the family moved into a ten foot square log cabin in Far West that had been intended to be a cow stable.

Having been forcibly removed from their homes in Independence, Missouri in 1833, the Mormons were determined to fight for their rights as citizens of the United States. Now, apart from the regular hit and run burning of homes, scattering of animals and destruction of Mormon crops, two Mormons, including Apostle David Patten, as well as one Missouri militiaman were killed during a skirmish at a Crooked River encampment in which Parley was involved. Soon after, a vengeful mob attacked the tiny town of Haun's Mill near Far West, killing seventeen Mormons including men, women and children.

Missouri Governor Wilburn Boggs issued an extermination order on 28 October. On the 31st, seven Mormon leaders, including Joseph and Hyrum Smith and Parley Pratt, who thought they were going to the state militia camp to discuss a peace settlement, were arrested and sentenced to be shot the next morning. Refusing to carry out the order, General Alexander Doniphan took them to Independence instead.

Before leaving Far West, the captives were allowed to get clothing and bid farewell to their families. Parley later wrote, "I went to my house being guarded by two or three soldiers, the cold rain was pouring without, and on entering my little cottage there lay my wife sick of a fever, with which she had

been for some time confined. At her breast was our son Nathan, an infant of three months and by her side a little girl of five years. According to this account, Mary began to cry. Parley tried to comfort her, "praying for her to live for his sake and that of the children." He "expressed hope they would meet again though years might separate us. She promised to try to live. Then I embraced and kissed the little babes and departed."

The prisoners were taken to Independence, Missouri and then to Richmond Jail. After a quick hearing, Joseph, Hyrum and four others were charged with treason for leading the defense of Far West. Parley and four others were charged with murder of Moses Rowland during the Crooked River skirmish and remained in the Richmond Jail.

Mary had few resources for food and fuel. She did have several cows and some stored corn, but had to depend on others, many of whom were preparing to flee. She received a letter from Parley advising her to come and live in jail with him. He wrote, "the Jail is somewhat open and cold, but the Sheriff has promised to furnish us with a good stove and plenty of wood, and we have plenty to eat—and drink. It is now at your choice to come and spend the winter with me or live a lonely widow on a desolate prairie, where you are not sure of a living or protection. If you choose to come and winter with me, you will please bring your bed and plenty of bedding so that we can hang a plenty of curtains around our bed. Bring a chest of clothing such as you need. Bring our table and 2 or 3 plates, a few basons [sic] and a wash bole [sic]. Bring all my interesting books and especially my big atlas. Bring all the wrighting [sic] paper and my steel pens; in short bring everything you think you shall need. I can pay your board and mine is found for me. You will have nothing to do but to sit down and study with me and nerse [sic] your little one, and as oft as you want to wash our clothing, you can go out to some of the nebours [sic] here [to] do our washing. I think it will be much cheeper [sic] and easier [sic] and more comfortable for you to winter in jail with me than to live where you do....you need not be a fraid [sic] of the old jail for it is better than the hut where you now live."

Late in 1838, Mary traveled to Richmond and lived with Parley in jail. In her biography, she described the prison as a "damp, dark, filthy place, without ventilation, merely having a small curtain on one side."

In the prison, Mary wrote to her parents in Bethel, Maine, expressing her concerns that they would be worried about them, "do not give your selfs [sic] any trouble about us. [We] are in the hands of an all wise God and he will do with us as he pleases...he will do no injustes [sic]. I feel firm in the faith of the fullness of the Gospel, and I am determined by the help of God to endure to the end that I may have a share in the celestial kingdom of God. I am glad that I am counted worthy to suffer afflictions for the Gospel sake....my health is improving. The children are well. Mary Ann never so harty [sic] as she is now as lively as ever....my little Nathan is a lovely child....he has blue eyes and looks like Mary Ann....dear Mother I am glad to hear that your are in good health and I trust your will be faithful and never give up the



Mary Ann Frost Stearns Pratt (left) and daughter, Mary Ann Stearns Winters. Courtesy of Jayne Fife

faith but endure to the end. Oh how I long to hear that my father and the rest of the family have embraced the fullness of the Gospel”

On 16 March 1839, Mary and her children left Richmond Prison to rejoin the remaining Saints. She carried Parley’s manuscript on the Missouri persecutions, *Zion in Captivity, a Lamentation Written in Prison*. It was in a pillowcase pinned between her petticoat and skirt. When she went through the doorway, her wide skirt obscured little Mary Ann, who was just behind her mother. As the child reached the opening, the guard accidentally let the heavy prison door fall on her, breaking her arm. She said in later years that because of the distraction she caused, no one thought to search her mother.

Three days later, in a letter to Mary’s parents, Parley wrote, “Mary left the prison 3 days ago and is gone to Far West from thence she will go to Quincy....Mary talks often of her family....while the tear stole down her cheeks and her countenance kindled with tender affection and how oft have I prest [sic] her to my heart and comforted with the hope that one day we should see you all and live in the enjoyment of your society....” He continued writing that Mary “is all kindness and goodness and is a pattern of patience enduring all her afflictions with a cheerful meekness and resignation and acting as an angel of mercy to her husband in bonds and imprisonment....”

After being threatened with death if they did not depart Far West at once, Mary and her children left with David Rogers. Their destination was Quincy, Illinois, a small city of several thousand built on limestone bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River.

Upon reaching the Illinois side, they were faced with a swollen muddy stream with a firm bank on the other side. To lighten the load, Mary used a nearby crude bridge, leaving the children in the wagon. As she reached the other side, she turned and saw a little girl’s bonnet floating downstream. At the same time, David Rogers, driving the horses up the bank, looked back and saw what he perceived to be bundle of clothing that had just fallen off the wagon. He called out,

“There is something lost in the water.” Mary Pratt screamed, “It is Mary Ann.”

David instantly dropped the reins and jumped into the swiftly moving water. At that instant the horses, being high spirited and active, began to run. As this incident was later recorded, “The wagon and its occupants would have dashed to pieces but for the timely interference of a large prong of a tree, which caught the carriage with such a strong hold all was brought to a stand [still].”

Tiny Mary Ann later wrote that as they moved through the deep stream, she “pitched head foremost out of the carriage and into the water.” One of the wheels ran over her and crushed her fast into the mud at the bottom of the stream. But as it moved over her, she caught the spokes with her hands. By this means the same wheels that crushed her down brought her to the surface and saved her life. Upon examination, the marks of the wheel were distinctly seen on both her thighs, which “were seriously injured and nearly broken.” Years later, she told her grandchildren that as she felt the crush of the wheel, she heard a voice say, “Hold onto the spoke, hold on to the spoke.”

Finally safe in Quincy, Mary and her children rented a small house, and by selling some books and using her cows that had been brought from Missouri for her, she was able to take care of her family. She despaired of ever seeing Parley again.

On 30 May 1839, Parley wrote from the Columbia, Boone County, Missouri jail, where he had been transferred for trial. The charge had been changed from murder to treason. He wrote that the new jail was twice as large as that in Richmond. He added that he prayed that she would “never part from me while I live. I know not how to express my feelings concerning this lon[g] absence from you and our little ones. I hardly dare to trust my fingers with a penn [sic] to write on the subject lest I should express feeling which would increase your sorrow—lest I should ask that of you which would be more than I have a right to ask of you, and more than you are bound to fulfill,—you have already had more trouble and affliction in your union with one whose life has been little else but a constant round of misfortune, grief and suffering. [It is more] than most persons have to endure during a long life. And I am far from wishing you to suffer more for my sake. If I had foreseen [sic] the troubles which you would be called to endure for my sake, I would niver [sic] have asked your hand nor clasped you to my fond bosom, as my lovely brode [sic].”

In a letter to Mary’s parents in Maine, Parley urges them to come west where the Mormons are building a town at Commerce, later to be known as Nauvoo. He wrote that they should “come out and breathe the pure air of the prairies. Therefore, you can come and live with us....I hope yet to see good days with my family and friends, all settled in peace where we can visit each other and rejoice together.”

Parley escaped from the Columbus Jail on 4 July 1839, with the help of his brother Orson. He had been incarcerated for eight months with no trial.

(to be continued in the next issue)

Diary of William S. Hastings

(continued from the last issue)



1943-January 1, Cloudy, warm. All day for H. Mason on Lot 5 R 8, Roxbury, & Lot 5 R 13-14-15, L 4 R 13 & Lot 7 Range 12 & 13, Byron. January 2, Clear & cold. Chores & cutting gray birch. January 3, Clear & windy. Home in a.m. Snowshoed in p.m. January 4, Snow, 4". Put up spuds in a.m. Hauled 20 bu. to Burns in p.m. Blowing a gale at night. January 5, Cold & windy. Cruised Mason land in Andover. At 2:15 p.m. I was on the ledges of Puzzle Mt. south peak. 2 ft. of snow and a gale of wind! Made about 9 miles. January 6, Clear & windy. 1 day for Maurice Benson in West Paris Village. \$10 pd. January 7, Clear & cold. Cut fir pulp in Bean Swamp. January 8, Clear & cold. Put up spuds. Went to dentist in p.m. Masonic rehearsal in eve. January 9, -13 [degrees]. Clear & warmer. 1 day for Phil Chadbourne in L28 R 9. January 10, Clear & warmer. Round home Scaled 33 cords of pulp for Al Curtis. \$1.50 pd. January 11, Clear & cool. 1 day for H. Mason on the Abbott lot, Andover. Finished cruising. January 12, Clear & warm. Short job for Sheriff Francis in Oxford "Fore St." 8 hr. on Brown land, Oxford. John 1 day. January 13, Clear & cool. 7 hrs. on Brown job, Oxford and finished. Paid John \$6. January 14, Clear & warm. Cut pulp all day. Inspection for F.C. Degree. January 15, Cloudy, warm. Cut birch & pulp. Grange installation. January 16, Snow & rain. 7 hr. in Peru for Rumford Falls Trust Co. Left car on Concord Pond & snowshoed over Bald Mt. under Speckled Mt. to Mt. east of Notch road. Back via Abbott Pond, Shag Pond & Granite Ledge. January 17, Clear & warm. Round home. January 18, Snow, 3". Cut birch all day. John broke a saw plate. January 19, Snow, 4". Bethel with spuds. Bought a saw plate, Terrell White End. No. 5. Butchered for John. Blowing a gale at night. January 20, -2 [degrees]. Blowing a gale.. Worked on maps in a.m. Sick in p.m. & all night. Worst gale for years. Roads are blocked late p.m. January 21, Clear & cold. Feeling better. Still blowing. Roads blocked. January 22, Clear, cold & WIND! Worked on maps, etc. January 23, Cloudy & calm at last. Hauled wood & logs alone. Bob in Berlin. January 24, Clear & warm. Shoveled snow in a.m. Maps in p.m. Clouding in p.m. January 25, Cloudy, warm. 1 day in Rumford for Elgare La Perle, \$10 charged. January 26, Clear & cool. Annual Fire Ins. Meeting in S. Paris. January 27, Cut pulp. January 28, Cut birch & wood. January 29, Cut pulp. January 30, Clear & cold. Cut pulp in a.m. Bethel in p.m. January 31, Clear & cool. Scaled for Al Curtis. Star rehearsal in p.m. February 1, Snow, 2 in. Put up spuds in a.m. Cut pulp p.m. February 2, Clearing. Put up spuds in a.m. Cut pulp in p.m. February 3, Clear & cool. Cutting pulp. Initiated Elmer Bennett in Star. Installed afterward. Frank installed. Ruth & I are same offices. February 4, Rain (light). Went to Berlin with 100 bu. spuds. \$1.50 per bu. Got our red truck home. \$46.99. February 5, Foggy. Cut birch. February 6, Round home. February 7,

Clear & warm. Grover, John & I went to camp to shovel off the roof. February 8, Clear & cold. Cut spruce. February 9, Clear & windy. 10 hrs. in Buckfield for C. W. Verrill. February 10, Clear & warm. 10 hrs. & finished in Buckfield. \$20 Paid. February 11, Rain. Slippery! Put up spuds. February 12, Clear & cold. Cut birch. February 13, Clouding & snow. Cut pulp. 8" snow. February 14, Clearing & colder. Round home. February 15, -20 [degrees]. Cold & a gale! No school. Roads are blocked. Wicked day! February 16, -35 [degrees]. Colder but nearly calm. Worked on maps. February 17, Cold & clear. Maps & spuds. February 18, Clouding, warmer. Went to see Swett and also to Auburn for Wheeler maps. February 19, Clear & warm. Helped haul pulp & birch a.m. Made an exercising bar for Geo. Lister [storekeeper at Lockes Mills]. I installed the officers of Jefferson Chapter O.E.S. Ruth was Chaplain. February 20, Clear & warm. 8 hrs. for Felspar Co. in L7 R6, Albany. Billy \$3. Busted my back. Tough snowshoeing! Wet & sticky. February 21, Clear & warm. Snow is settling. Back is bad. Went to Greenwood & Norway. February 22, Clear & warm. Made a map for F. L. Edwards, \$3. Went to Bethel, paid excise taxes & sent for car license. Car greased. February 23, Clear & warm. Director's meeting in So. Paris. 3 hrs. for Flanders (research). February 24, Cloudy & rain. Sick with prevailing epidemic. February 25, Rain. Still in house. I indexed my Town Plans, 142 in all. I have over 200 plans and maps. February 26, -6 [degrees]. Clouding & cold. 3 hrs. on Riverside Cem. Annex plan for Registry. Norway for treatment in p.m. February 27, Clear & cold. Round home. Finished Cem. Annex plan, \$5. February 28, Clear & cold. Scaled for Al Curtis. Moved [Erlon] Dutton to [Doris] Kimball's [her father]. Moved some wood & furniture for Ed Haines to Bean place. Sick again at night. March 1, Clear & cold. I'm in house. Made a plan of Greenwood. March 2, Clear & cold. Round home. Fixed washing machine & toaster for John. Filed saw, etc. Went to Widd [Dr. Twaddle] about my nose. March 3, Snow. Put up spuds. March 4, Cold & windy. John and I went on Bumpus Lot in Albany. March 5, Warmer. On same job. March 6, Snow. 4 hrs. on Bumpus lot & finished. Nor'easter, 8 in. March 7, Clear & cool. Greenwood & West Paris with spuds. March 8, Clear & cold. Repaired sled in a.m. Made plans of Bumpus lot in p.m. March 9, -23 [degrees]. Clear & cool. East Andover & Rumford for Charles Bartlett. \$8 paid. March 10, Snow. 1 day in North Paris for Lloyd Flanders. March 11, Rain. 4 hrs. in Registry. 2 in woods for Lloyd Flanders. March 12, Cloudy, foggy. 8 hrs. for Flanders. Went to Stearns Hill. Slid out of road. March 13, Cloudy. 5 hrs. for Flanders & finished the field work. March 14, Clear & warm. Round home. March 15, Clouding. 8 hrs. on Lot 81, Milton, cruising. March 16, Snow & rain. 4 hrs. research for Flanders. 3 hrs. for R. F. Trust Co. Hammond land, Sumner. March 17, Rain. Started for Peru but came back via Rumford & delivered map of Brown Hammond land to R. F. Trust Co. Fixed pump & repaired stable. March 18, Clear & warm. 9 hrs. on Brown-Hammond land, 22 miles from home. March 19, Clouding.

8 hrs. on Brown-Hammond land, Peru & finished. March 20, Cloudy. Evelyn and David [Tamminen] came. Went to Bethel. March 21, Clear & cold. Round home. Made maps. Tapped a few trees. March 22, Clear & cold, windy. 8 hrs. on Hammond farm. Charles Hammond showed me some lines. Also on L3 R12 in Peru, Thompson's Grant. March 24, Cloudy & squally. 9 hrs. Wesley Hammond land, Rumford Falls Trust Co. March 25, Cloudy-clearing. 9 hrs. on L3R12, Peru, R.F.T.Co. March 26, Clear & warm. Norway for treatment. Flat tire coming home. March 27, Clear & warm. Bethel in p.m. March 28, Round home. March 29, Clear & cold. 9 hrs. on L12 3rd Div., Rumford for R.F.T. Co. March 30, Clear & cold. Hall-Edwards case, \$5. March 31, Clouding & cold. 9 hrs. on W. Hammond farm, Sumner for R. F. T. Co. April 1, Cloudy. Tinkered the manure spreader. April 2, Cloudy & rainy. 8 hrs on L 15 R 5 Mexico for R.F.T. Co. Saw a bear track. Sent tire to be repaired. April 3, Cloudy & cold. Norway in a.m. Barb got her glasses. So. Paris in p.m. to see Walter Gray on Bumpus case. \$3 charge. April 4, Clear & cold. Round home. April 5, Cloudy & warm. 10 hrs. on L12, Div. 3 Rumford. Dick Carter, 1 day, \$5.50. April 6, Clear, cold, & windy! 10 hrs. L 12 Div. 3, Carter 1 day, \$5.50. April 7, Clear & cold. So. Paris Registry. \$2 Ole Olson. April 8, Clear & cold. Cruised L 12 Div. 3, Rumford, 3 hrs. Saw bear track. April 9, Clear & cool. 1 day for Mrs. Clark on Gary St., South Paris. John—paid \$5. Ruth jammed her fingers. April 10, Clear & cold. 10 hrs. on Brown Hammond lot, Peru. April 11, Clear & cold. Bethel to have Ruth's fingers dressed. Got tire, \$3.90. In p.m. thawed Bean place water pipe & cleaned my sink outlet. April 12, Clouding. 10 hrs. on Ames lot, Mexico, R.F.T. Co. Saw Rand Stowell, Newt Stowell, Will Paul. Snow at night, 4 or 5 inches. April 13, Clearing. Round home. Snow melting. Rain at night. April 14, Snow squalls & cold. Put up spuds. April 15, Cloudy & cold. 6 hrs. Waterford for Dana Hamlin. Paid. Norway & saw ration board. April 16, Clouding. Went to Albany on Bumpus lot with Mr. Rowell. Got ordered off lot. Went to So. Woodstock for Edward Koskela, ½ day. Snow at night. April 17, Cloudy & cool. Put up spuds. April 18, Clear & cool. Worked on maps, etc. April 19, Clouding. 1 day for Koskela & finished. \$15 paid. Coming down with a chest cold. April 20, Cloudy. Sick at home. April 21, Cloudy & cold. Still sick. Widd [Twaddle, M.D.] came to see me. April 22, Clear & warm. Some better. Widd came again. April 23, Clear & warm. I'm just hanging around. Pond cleared of ice. April 24, Clear & warm. Out doors a few minutes. April 25, Cloudy. Barb joined the [Congregational] Church. I'm worse again. Temp. 102+ [degrees]. Widd came down. April 26, Clear & cold, high wind. I'm in bed. Real flu. April 27, Clouding. I'm some better but still in bed. Snow at night, 2". April 28, Cloudy. Still in bed. No strength. April 29, Clear & cold, windy. I'm up. Widd came again. Uncle John came for a visit. April 30, Clouding & rain. Cold! I'm still in house.

(to be continued in the next issue)



Member Profile: Lynn and Joe Arizzi

Joe Arizzi was born in Camden, NJ, 11 January 1934. He attended local schools and graduated from Merchantville High School, following which he served overseas in the U.S. Air Force. Upon his return to civilian life, he attended Rutgers University before moving to Gainesville, FL to join his mother and finish his education at the University of Florida.

Lynn Arizzi was born in Jacksonville, FL, 21 June 1939. She attended schools in Memphis, TN, Jacksonville, FL, New Orleans, LA (where her father was a student at the Baptist Theological Seminary) and completed her high school education at Kenwood High School, Baltimore, MD. Lynn received her B.A. from Blue Mountain College in Mississippi. She began her teaching career at Oceanway Junior High School, Jacksonville, FL, where she met and married Joe in 1962.

After a short stay in Chattanooga, TN, Joe and Lynn moved to Gainesville, FL. Joe was a federal investigator while Lynn completed her Masters Degree at the University of Florida and then taught at P. K. Yonge Laboratory School. The two then moved to the Washington, DC area where Joe had various positions with the Federal Office of Personnel Management and finished his career at FEMA. Lynn worked as an elementary school music teacher, producing Broadway shows with her elementary students. She later became music supervisor and curriculum specialist for the Fairfax County Public Schools.

Lynn and Joe moved aboard their sailboat in 1981 while still working in the D.C. area. The boat was located at Hartge Yacht Yard in Galesville, MD. Both loved the sailing life and decided to retire early to cruise. In 1990, they made their first cruise to the Maine coast and fell in love with the State. For the next nine years, they cruised from the Canadian Maritimes to Florida in season.

In 1992, Lynn and Joe came to Bethel for the first time to learn to cross country skiing. They stayed at Barbara Douglass's bed and breakfast since she was the only one who would accept their very verbal parrot, "Mario." They visited Bethel every winter thereafter.

Finally in 2003, Lynn and Joe bought Ruth Wight's home on Eden Lane in Bethel. They moved to Maine permanently in 2005. Since that time, they have both been very active in the community. They are members of the Media and Communications Committee of the Mahoosuc Land Trust. Joe serves as a Western Mountains Senior College board member and Lynn holds a similar position for Maine Performing Arts. Lynn is also a Director of SAD # 44 Board and Joe is a new member of the Town of Bethel's Budget Committee. Both are active Rotarians. Lynn's passion is directing the Senior Players with a Joe as one of those players. At the Society, they have been active assisting with mailings, numerous special events and in the Museum Shop. They live very happily with their two Shih Tzus, "Mocha" and "Latte," as well as their parrot, "Mario."

Editor's Corner

This issue marks the 30th anniversary of the first appearance of this publication in late 1976. Then known as *The Bethel Courier* with a masthead reminiscent of a previous Bethel newspaper by the same name founded in 1858 by the town's first historian, Dr. N. T. True, that lasted until 1861, this publication began to appear semi-annually until 1980 when it became a quarterly. Originally published with six pages, it next went to eight and has been twelve since 1995. With the establishment of the Regional History Center in 1998, the name became simply *The Courier* reflecting the broader scope of the Society's historical focus. It is hoped that *The Courier* will continue to be the Society's voice reporting the organization's news to its members throughout the nation and in several parts of the world for many years to come as well as providing historical feature articles highlighting insights into the area's past. As editor for all these thirty years, I wish to take this opportunity to thank our readers for their support and assistance. It has been a gratifying experience that I trust will continue and be passed on to those who come after us.

One other note, in the last issue, one of our faithful and observant readers pointed out an error in date for the Hastings Diary. It should have begun in November 1942 not 1944. I regret any confusion this may have caused in the meantime.

SRH

Book Note

The Pork Thieves. By Lois Joann Witham. (Rockland, ME: Custom Museum Publishing, 2006. Pp. 25. Paper. \$14.95.)

For those interested in Western Maine folklore, this book by Lois Witham contains a story about her grandmother's great grandmother that took place about the time Maine became a State in 1820. There are numerous insights into this period from a child's point of view and the book is profusely illustrated with colorful sketches relating to the events discussed. It has an attractive front cover and features a useful profile of the author on the back cover with a color photo of Lois Witham's Farris family camp on Thompson Lake in Oxford. With frequent references to places in Western Maine, including Bethel, it also contains the story of Molly Ockett's unwelcome visit to the Snow residence at the falls that bears the family name on the Little Androscoggin and records her subsequent curse on that spot where "no one will ever prosper."

SRH

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- A 10% discount on purchases of \$10 or more from the Society's Museum Shop
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- Subscription to the Society's quarterly, *The Courier*
- Preferred rate for exhibit hall/meeting room rental
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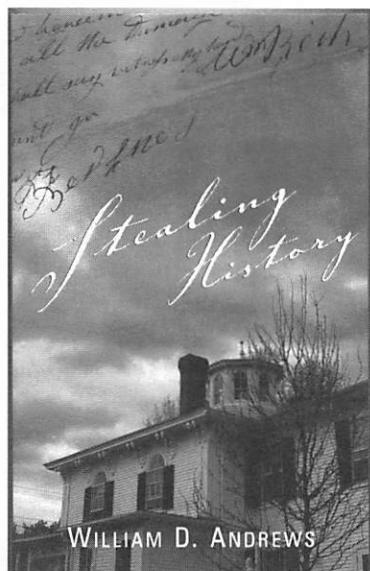
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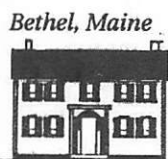
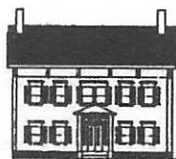
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